SOCR: A Handwritten Data Form Producing and Reading System

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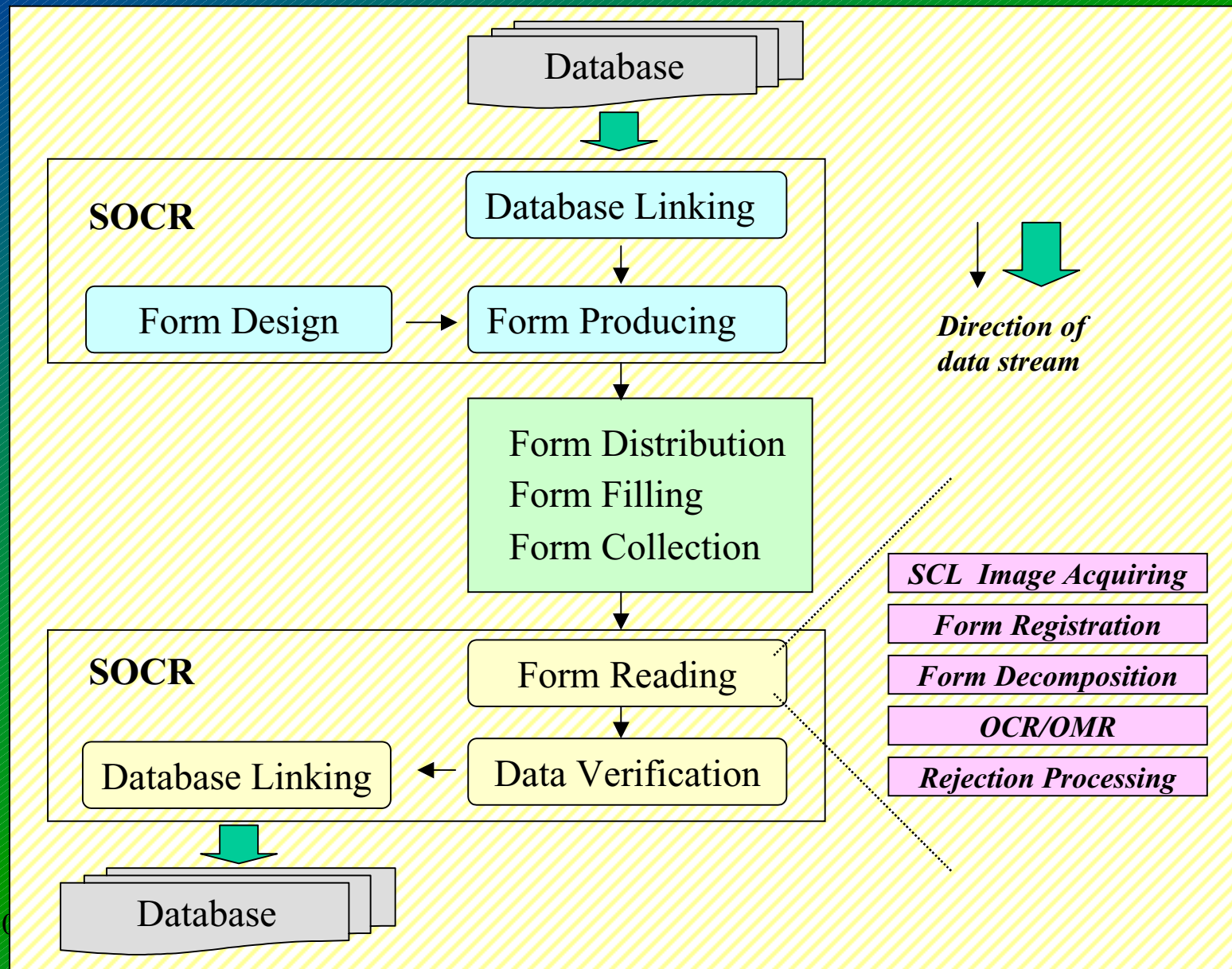Nanjing, 210096, China.
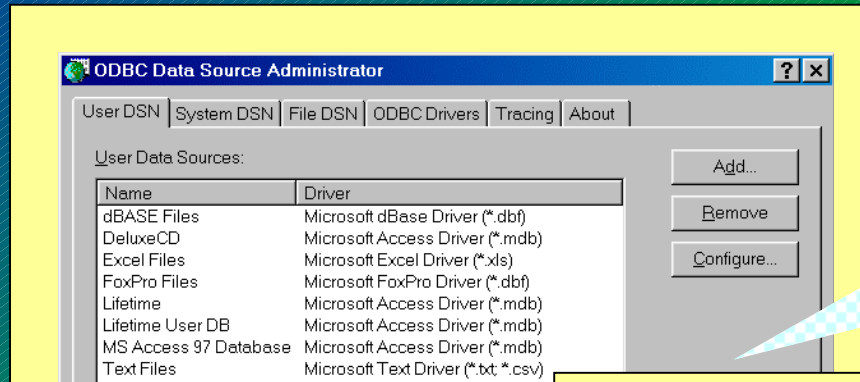Email: phc@seu.edu.cn

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Abstract

Document analysis and recognition software, especially form reader, is greatly required in office automation. This paper serves as a primer to the SOCR (version 1.03), which is a software package for handwritten data form producing and reading. This package integrates techniques of database linking, form producing, form reading, and data verification. With SOCR, data forms can be easily created and the form data, including loosely constrained handwritten numerals and symbols, can be read into databases at high accuracy and high speed, and in a human-compatible manner. This software package has been applied to producing and reading handwritten student score forms in several universities and tax forms in several cities.

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Main Structure of the System

Database

↓

SOCR

Database Linking

Form Design → Form Producing

↓

Form Distribution
Form Filling
Form Collection

↓

SOCR

Form Reading

↓

Database Linking ← Data Verification

↓

Database

Direction of data stream

SCL Image Acquiring
Form Registration
Form Decomposition
OCR/OMR
Rejection Processing

Database Linking and Form Producing

SOCR can access existing databases and enable seamless usage of data forms in the databases and form data in paper documents.
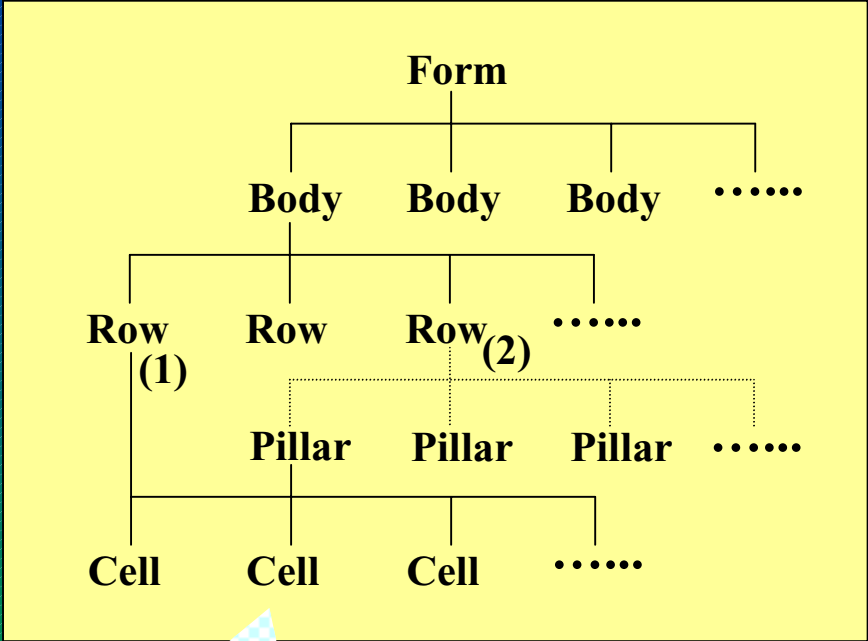
ODBC and DAO are used to link various databases

Functions are provided to merge data fields (in database) and to link to specified fields of form templates.

Form Producing Wizard

Form Data Structure

Form

Body **Body** **Body** ‥‥‥

Row (1) **Row** **Row (2)** ‥‥‥

Pillar **Pillar** **Pillar** ‥‥‥

Cell **Cell** **Cell** ‥‥‥

The hierarchy tree, where the level of "Pillar" is optional, depending on applications.

An example of form without the "Pillar" level.

B1R1C1

B2R2C1

B2R3C2

B3R1C1   B3R1C3

B3R2C2

B1R2P1C1   B1R2P2C1

B1R2P1R2   B1R2P2C2

B2R3P1C1 B2R3P2C1LT

B2R3P1C2   B2R3P2C1RT

B3R1P1C1RT

B3R1P1C1LB

B3R2C2 or
B3R2P2C1

An example of form without the "Pillar" level.

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Sample Form

东南大学学生成绩登记表

课程名称	美术及艺术	课程代号	000001	教师姓名	教一	教师代号	000001	考试类别		学分	3·5

（注： 考试类别编号为，1-考试，2-考查，3-补考，4-重修）

序号	学号	姓名	分数	更正分	序号	学号	姓名	分数	更正分	序号	学号	姓名	分数	更正分
01	11191101	学一	60	75	16	11191116	学十六	100		31	11191131	学三一	■	53
02	11191102	学二	61	76	17	11191117	学十七	99		32	11191132	学三二	■	60
03	11191103	学三	62	77	18	11191118	学十八	98		33	11191133	学三三	71	
04	11191104	学四	63	78	19	11191119	学十九	97		34	11191134	学三四	72	
05	11191105		64	79	20	11191120	学二十	96		35	11191135	学三五	73	
				80	21	11191121	学二一	95		36	11191136	学三六	74	
					22	11191122	学二二	■	94	37	11191137	学三七	75	
					23	11191123	学二三	93		38	11191138	学三八	76	
					24	11191124	学二四	92		39	11191139	学三九	77	
			69	84	25	11191125	学二五	91		40	11191			
11	11191111	学十一	70	85	26	11191126	学二六	90		4				
12	11191112	学十二	71	86	27	11191127	学二七	89						
13	11191113	学十三	72	87	28	11191128	学二八	88						
14	11191114	学十四	73	88	29	11191129	学二九	87		44				
15	11191115	学十五	74	87	30	11191130	学三十	86		45	11191145	学四五		05

书写要求：
（1）黑钢笔书写，笔划横平竖直，书写位置居中，勿与边框相连，勿出现断笔。
（2）数字1、2、3、4、5、7不带圈，0、6、8、9圈要闭合。
（3）数字4上部要有较大开口。
（4）误写字符请涂黑。

规范书写： 0123456789■

更正计录

序号	签名	盖章

教师签名　　　　　教学系主任签名

年　月　日　　　年　月　日

The form format can be changed by the form producing module

Form registration is automatically performed. A wizard is provided.

Handwritten Character Recognition

- The OCR/OMR module of SOCR can attain about **99.5%** recognition accuracy for loosely constrained (handprinted) handwritten numerals and symbols.

- "Loosely constrained" means that all the characters should not be indeterminate for classification. The constraints imposed on handwritten numerals include:
  - '0', '6', '8', '9' have closed circles,
  - '1', '2', '3', '4', '5', '7' do not have circles,
  - '4' does not close the upper part.

- The recognition engine of SOCR is based on a hybrid model, which combines both traditional methods and neural recognizers. Doubtful characters are sent to the rejection processing module.

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Rejection Processing and Data Verification

Manual tool is provided for rejection correction. All the corrected characters can be distributed back to their original forms automatically.

Different data verification strategies are used to examine the (logical) correctness of recognized results. A pair examination wizard is provided.

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